

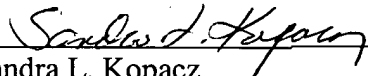
**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Stephen Zappala  
Patent No. 6,329,398 B1  
Filed: March 30, 2001  
For: PREEMPTIVE ANALGESIC AGENT AND METHODS OF USE  
Examiner: TBD  
Group: TBD  
Docket No.: 16865-00012

To the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, DC 20231

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the attached correspondence is being mailed via Express Mail Certificate No. EL935483847US, on this 11th day of December 2003, addressed to Mail Stop: Reissue, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
Sandra L. Kopacz

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTS TO REISSUE APPLICATION**

**Introductory Remarks**

The amendments below to the specification and claims are necessary to correct errors in the original patent. Specifically, the Applicant is correcting the patent to claim priority from two prior patent applications, related provisional and nonprovisional patent applications, and to add claims for subject matter that the Applicant was entitled to claim in the original patent but unintentionally did not.

Also, to assist the Examiner, enclosed is a copy of a communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding the Applicant's recent submission of a Petition Under 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(3) and 37 C.F.R. 1.78(a)(6) and a Request for Certificate of Correction. As indicated in the PTO communication, the Applicant was instructed by the PTO to file a Reissue Application

instead to correct the priority claim. Also as instructed by the PTO, the Applicant has included a Petition under Section 1.78 again to claim priority and another check in the amount of \$1,330.00 for the fee under Section 1.78 for an unintentionally delayed submission of an amendment to correct a priority claim. Since the Applicant has already paid the fee of \$1,330.00 in connection with the original petition filed on October 1, 2003, if the Patent Office determines that the substantial fee under Section 1.17(t) is not required a second time, the Applicant asks that the fee be credited to the Applicant's representative's deposit account number 50-1582.